



**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

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June 2, 2014

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "PLB", is written over the printed name of Philip L. Browning.

Board of Supervisors

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First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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**ENHANCING SERVICES TO STRENGTHEN 241.1 PROJECT FOR CROSSOVER
YOUTH ANNUAL REPORT**

A motion by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in conjunction with the Directors of the Departments of Mental Health (DMH), Public Health (DPH), Probation and Children and Family Services (DCFS), to implement the 241.1 Crossover Youth Project recommendations and report annually on the evaluation measures identified in the CEO's November 2012 report.

Per your Board's request, attached is the annual report prepared by Denise Herz, Ph.D., Director and Professor, School of Criminal Justice and Criminalistics, California State University, Los Angeles on our behalf.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:RRS:vs

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chief Executive Office
Department of Mental Health
Department of Public Health
Probation Department

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES School of Criminal Justice and Criminalistics

To: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

From: Denise C. Herz, Ph.D., Director and Professor, School of Criminal Justice & Criminalistics,
California State University—Los Angeles

RE: Request for 241.1 Multidisciplinary Data Results

Date: May 27, 2014

Per the Board's request in an earlier Board Motion related to the 241.1 Multidisciplinary Team, I am submitting a research report that summarizes the first phase of data findings. These findings will be updated with more cases as they accrue over the course of the year and also for a longer tracking period in the next annual report. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments you may have regarding the report at dherz@calstatela.edu or 323-343-4624.

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The California State University: Bakersfield, Channel Islands, Chico, Dominguez Hills, East Bay, Fresno, Fullerton, Humboldt, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Maritime Academy, Monterey Bay, Northridge, Pomona, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, San Luis Obispo, San Marcos, Sonoma, Stanislaus

241.1 Tracking Application and Outcome Data: A Summary of Findings

Denise C. Herz, Ph.D.
School of Criminal Justice & Criminalistics
California State University—Los Angeles

Overview of Data and Methodology

To support data reporting requirements for the 241.1 Multidisciplinary Team (MDT), representatives from Department of Children and Family Services, Probation, the Department of Mental Health, and the School of Criminal Justice & Criminalistics worked together to develop appropriate data collection tools, and DCFS committed resources through their Bureau of Information Systems to build a 241.1 web-based application to facilitate data collection across all agencies.

Data collection for this project began in October 2013 on all 241.1 referrals who received a disposition in October and had an open 300 case at the time of their disposition. Data were collected on these youth at the time they were referred ("Initial Data") to the 241.1 Units; at the post-disposition MDT meeting ("Post-Dispo Data"); and one year after they received a disposition ("Tracking Data"). Tracking Data was and will be collected over three periods of time or until both the dependency and delinquency cases close—whichever comes first. The three periods for data collection are designated as follows:

- Tracking Period 1 Data Collection: Covers months 1-4 after disposition
- Tracking Period 2 Data Collection: Covers Months 5-8 after disposition
- Tracking Period 3 Data Collection: Covers Months 9-12 after disposition

Although the current report only presents findings using the 241.1 referrals that received dispositions in October 2013 (N=23), cases for future analysis will continue to accrue in each subsequent month. The majority of 241.1 tracked youth data was available and entered into the database prior to analysis for this report; however, post-MDT recommendations and educational data at the time of the 241.1 referral were not available and will be included in future reports. In addition to the October 2013 disposition cases, previously collected data on referrals and dispositions for 2012 and 2013 are presented to provide a broader landscape of 241.1 referrals and their outcomes since data collection for this project did not systematically begin until October 2013. Moving forward, the 241.1 application built for this project will provide these data.

Findings for 241.1 Dispositions and the Characteristics of Tracked Youth

How Many 241.1 Referrals Are There and What Dispositions Did They Receive?

Using both "Tracking Data" and data collected for previous research efforts, it was possible to report the number of youth processed and their dispositions for 241.1 referrals in 2012 and 2013 as well as the dispositions for the 241.1 tracked cases.

Some important notes about these data include: (1) the 2012 data only reflects 6 months of data collection, but there is no reason to suspect that the second half of the year would alter the findings of the first half; and (2) because 2013 data were recent at the time of this report, some cases did not have a disposition and were “pending”—missing dispositions for these cases will be recorded and included in future reports. Additionally, it is important to note that only youth with a “fresh” 241.1 referral are reflected in these numbers. For example, 241.1 referrals who received dispositions and were referred for a subsequent MDT meeting after their disposition (also known as a MDT reassessment) are excluded.

***What Do the Data in Table 1 Tell Us About 241.1 Referrals
and the Dispositions They Receive?***

- Regardless of the time period examined, 241.1 youth were most likely to receive a disposition of WIC 790, WIC 725a, or WIC 654. When youth received a WIC 602 disposition, the majority of those dispositions (if not all of them) were dual jurisdiction—i.e., WIC 300/602. Very few 241.1 youth received “straight” WIC 602 dispositions, which would require the immediate termination of their WIC 300 cases.

**Table 1: Number of Youth Processed as 241.1 Referrals and
the Dispositions They Received in 2012 and 2013**

	Jan. 2012- June 2012	2013	October 2013 Dispositions
	All Courts Over Time	All Court Locations	Tracked Youth
Number of 241.1 Referrals*	255	589	23
241.1 Court Disposition			
Dismissed	7%	4%	0
WIC 654.2	21%	15%	30%
WIC 725(a)	22%	14%	26%
WIC 790	27%	18%	26%
WIC 300/602	17%	14%	17%
WIC 602	3%	9%	0
Other/Pending	3%	27%	0

**NOTES: Data reflect unique youth within a time period rather than referrals—i.e., one youth may have multiple referrals within one timeframe; however, they are only counted once in these data. Pending dispositions for 2013 will be retrieved over time for a complete set of disposition data, and referral and disposition data for 2014 is in the process of being collected and will be displayed in future reports.*

What are the Characteristics of the 241.1 Tracked Youth?

Initial Data include a wide variety of information on 241.1 tracked youth, ranging from their demographics to their involvement with systems to their current status in school and with behavioral problems. Using these data, this section creates a “profile” of 241.1 tracked youth and the challenges they face.

What Do the Data in Table 2 Tell Us about the Socio-Demographic Profile of 241.1 Tracked Youth?

- Approximately two-thirds of the 241.1 tracked youth were male (65%), and a third were female (35%). The proportion of females in this population is higher than in the general juvenile justice system population (typically 20%).
- About half of the 241.1 tracked youth were Latino, and 39% were African-American. Although lower in prevalence compared to Latino youth, African-American youth were over-represented at higher rates in this population (39%) than in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems individually.
- 241.1 tracked youth were 15 years old (on average) at the time of their current arrests.
- These youth were most likely to live in group homes (35%) at the time of their referral followed by relatives (26%), and home (22%). 13% of these youth were AWOL from their living situation at the time of their arrest.
- Most of these youth were from SPA 6 (35%) followed equally by SPAs 1, 2, and 3 (13% each).

Table 2: Characteristics of 241.1 Tracked Youth (N=23)

	%
Demographics	
% Female	35%
% Male	65%
% African-American	39%
% Latino	52%
Rounded Average Age at Time of 241.1 Referral	15 years old
Living Situation at Time of Referral	
Group Home	35%
Relative (Legal Guardian and Not)	26%
Home	22%
Foster Care or Legal Guardian	18%

Table 2: Characteristics of 241.1 Tracked Youth (N=23)

	%
SPA Designation	
SPA 1	13%
SPA 2	13%
SPA 3	13%
SPA 4	4%
SPA 5	4%
SPA 6	35%
SPA 7	9%
SPA 8	9%

***What Do the Data in Table 3 Tell Us about
Involvement with the Child Welfare System among 241.1 Tracked Youth?***

- At the time of their 241.1 referral, the average number of previous referrals to DCFS for 241.1 tracked youth and/or their families was 8.87.
- The average number of years 241.1 traced youth spent in the child welfare system was 5 years, and this time was consecutive for slightly more than half of these youth (56%).
- The permanency plan for 30% of these youth at the time of their 241.1 referral was permanent planned living arrangements followed by reunification (26%), remain at home (22%), and guardianship (22%).

Table 3: Involvement in the Child Welfare System for 241.1 Tracked Youth (N=23)

	%
Average # of Referrals for Youth's Family	8.87 Referrals (SD=6.06 Ref.)
Average Length in the System	4.90 Years (SD=4.10 Years)
Time is Consecutive	56%
Time is Not Consecutive	44%
Has Prior 241.1 Referral	26%
Permanency Goal at Time of Referral	
Remain at Home	22%
Reunification	26%
Guardianship	22%
Permanent Planned Living Arrangements	30%

***What Do the Data in Table 4 Tell Us about
Involvement with the Juvenile Justice System among 241.1 Tracked Youth?***

- 43% of the current charges for 241.1 tracked youth were for property offenses; 35% were violent offenses; and 22% were for other types of charges. Most of these charges were misdemeanors (61%).
- 30% of the charges for 241.1 tracked youth were related to the youth's living situation—43% of these placement related charges occurred at group homes and 43% occurred at home.
- 20% of the charges for 241.1 tracked youth occurred at school.
- 25% of the 241.1 tracked female youth were recommended for the STAR Court—a program specifically designed for sexually exploited youth.
- 39% of youth had a prior criminal charge, and 26% had a prior status offense at the time of their 241.1 referral.

**Table 4: Involvement in the Juvenile Justice System for
241.1 Tracked Youth (N=23)**

	%
Most Serious Current Charge	
Violent Offense	35%
Property Offense	45%
Other Offense	22%
Type of Charge	
Misdemeanor	61%
Felony	30%
707b Offense	9%
Was Offense Related to Living Situation?	30%
Of those related, % living in group home	43%
Of those related, % living at home	43%
Of those related, % living in foster care	13%
Was Offense Related to School?	22%
Recommendation to STAR Court (% of Female Youth)	25%
Prior Offenses	
Criminal Charges	39%
Status Offenses	26%

What Do the Data in Table 5 Tell Us about the Prevalence of Mental Health and Substance Abuse among 241.1 Tracked Youth?

- All of the 241.1 tracked youth had indication of a mental health and/or a alcohol/drug problem. 61% had indication of co-occurring problems whereas only 26% had indication of a mental health problem only and 13% of an alcohol/drug problem only.
- A third of more of 241.1 tracked youth had a family history of mental illness; had been placed in a psychiatric hospital; experienced suicidal ideation, and/or were prescribed psychotropic medication.
- 74% of tracked youth had some level of problem with drugs and/or alcohol—the drugs of choice were marijuana with or without other drugs and alcohol. 61% had co-occurring problems.

Table 5: The Prevalence of Mental Health and Alcohol/Drug Problems among 241.1 Tracked Youth (N=23)

	%
Mental Health History	
Family History of Mental Illness	42%
Ever Placed in Psychiatric Hospital	30%
Experienced Suicidal Ideation	26%
Ever Attempted Suicide	9%
Prescribed Psychotropic Medication	22%
Current Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse Problems	
No Mental Health or Alcohol/Drug Problem Indicated	0%
Mental Health Problem Only Indicated	26%
Pattern of Alcohol/Drug Use/Misuse, Abuse, or Dependency Only	13%
Both a Mental Health and Alcohol/Drug Problem Indicated	61%

Findings for Probation Conditions Ordered and Services Received

What Services and Probation Conditions did 241.1 Tracked Youth Receive Four Months After Disposition and How Well Were Youth Complying/Participating?

Tracking data collected in the first period provided insight into which services youth received and the extent to which they were participating in those services. Additionally, the data identified which Probation conditions applied to each youth and whether the youth was complying with or violating their conditions. This section provides insight into these issues for each type of service as well as Probation conditions.

What Do the Data in Tables 6 Tell Us about the Mental Health Services Received by 241.1 Tracked Youth During the Tracking Period 1?

- Of all 241.1 tracked youth, 96% received at least one mental health service.
- The top three mental health services received by 241.1 tracked youth were: (1) individual counseling, (2) group counseling, and (3) wraparound programming.
- Approximately two-thirds to three-quarters of 241.1 tracked youth given a medication monitoring plan, group treatment, or individual treatment were participating in those services during this tracking period. Conversely, a third of the youth given group treatment and family therapy were not attending those services.

Table 6: Distribution of Mental Health Services Received by Type and Youth Participation Status at the End of Tracking Period 1

	N (%)	Youth Status in Each Service				
		Referral Only	Participating	Not Attending	Completed	Terminated
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth	23	---	---	---	---	---
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth Receiving Mental Health Services	22 (96%)	---	---	---	---	---
Of Those Who Received Services, What Type of Service Did They Receive?						
Individual Treatment	18 (82%)	33%	61%	6%	---	---
Group Treatment	12 (54%)	---	67%	33%	---	---
Wraparound Services	9 (41%)	22%	56%	11%	11%	---
Medication Monitoring	7 (32%)	---	71%	14%	---	14%
Family Treatment	3 (14%)	33%	33%	33%	---	---
Full Service Partnerships	2 (9%)	100%	---	---	---	---
Therapeutic Behavioral Services	1 (4%)	100%	---	---	---	---

NOTE: "----" denotes "not applicable." Percentages across the types of services do not add to 100% because youth often received more than one type of service.

What Do the Data in Tables 7 Tell Us about the Substance Abuse Services Received by 241.1 Tracked Youth During the Tracking Period 1?

- Of all 241.1 tracked youth, 56% received at least one substance abuse treatment service.
- Most youth who received substance abuse treatment received drug/alcohol education followed by outpatient treatment. Only 4% received inpatient treatment.
- Just under half of the 241.1 tracked youth given drug/alcohol education were attending, but 75% of those given outpatient services were not attending.

Table 7: Distribution of Substance Abuse Services Received by Type and Youth Participation Status at the End of Tracking Period 1

	N (%)	Youth Status in Each Service				
		Referral Only	Participating	Not Attending	Completed	Waitlisted
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth	23	---	---	---	---	---
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth Receiving Substance Abuse Services	13 (56%)	---	---	---	---	---
Of Those Who Received Services, What Type of Service Did They Receive?						
Drug/Alcohol Education	9 (69%)	22%	44%	11%	11%	11%
Drug/Alcohol Outpatient Treatment	4 (31%)	---	25%	75%	---	---
Drug/Alcohol Inpatient Treatment	1 (8%)	---	---	---	---	100%

NOTE: "---" denotes "not applicable." Percentages across the types of services do not add to 100% because youth often received more than one type of service.

What Do the Data in Tables 8 Tell Us about the Behavioral/Social Interventions Received by 241.1 Tracked Youth During the Tracking Period 1?

- Of all 241.1 tracked youth, 70% received at least one behavioral/social intervention service.
- The top three behavior/social interventions received by youth were (1) community service; (2) anger management (Not ART); and (3) independent living services.
- Participation rates were highest for 241.1 tracked youth placed in life skills training, pro-social activities, anger management (Not ART), and Anger Replacement Therapy (ART). Non-attendance/participation was highest among youth given community service (42%). None of the youth referred to/receiving independent living services were participating—two-thirds of youth were referred only and one-third were not attending.

Table 8: Distribution of Behavioral/Social Interventions Received by Type and Youth Participation Status at the End of Tracking Period 1

	N (%)	Youth Status in Each Service				
		Referral Only	Participating	Not Attending	Completed	Terminated
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth	23	---	---	---	---	---
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth Receiving Behavioral Services	16 (70%)	---	---	---	---	---
Of Those Who Received Services, What Type of Service Did They Receive?						
Community Service	12 (52%)	17%	33%	42%	---	---
Anger Management (Not ART)	8 (35%)	13%	63%	13%	13%	---
Independent Living Program	3 (13%)	67%	---	33%	---	---
Anger Replacement Therapy	2 (9%)	---	52%	---	50%	---
Life Skills/Social Skills Training	2 (9%)	---	100%	---	---	---
Pro-Social Activities	2 (9%)	---	100%	---	---	---
Mentoring	1 (4%)	---	100%	---	---	---

NOTE: "---" denotes "not applicable." Percentages across the types of services do not add to 100% because youth often received more than one type of service.

What Do the Data in Tables 9 Tell Us about the Educational Services Received by 241.1 Tracked Youth During the Tracking Period 1?

- Of all 241.1 tracked youth, 83% received at least one educational service.
- The top three educational services received by 241.1 tracked youth were (1) tutoring; (2) getting youth enrolled in school; and (3) credit recovery programs.
- Almost all who were expected to enroll in school were in the process or had completed this expectation. Participation rates were also high for attending a credit recovery program and participating in an attendance monitoring program. Although non-attendance rates were low for educational services overall, it was highest for tutoring services, IEP meetings, and weekly attendance monitoring.

Table 9: Distribution of Educational Services Received by Type and Youth Participation Status at the End of Tracking Period 1

	N (%)	Youth Status in Each Service				
		Referral Only	Participating	Not Attending	Completed	Terminated
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth	23	---	---	---	---	---
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth Receiving Educational Services	19 (83%)	---	---	---	---	---
Of Those Who Received Services, What Type of Service Did They Receive?						
Tutoring	12 (63%)	33%	42%	25%	---	---
Enroll Youth in School	9 (47%)	11%	78%	---	11%	---
Credit Recovery Program	6 (32%)	17%	67%	17%	---	---
Daily Attendance Monitoring	5 (26%)	---	80%	---	20%	---
AB 167 Appropriate	5 (26%)	60%	20%	---	---	---
IEP Team Meeting	5 (26%)	20%	20%	20%	---	---
Weekly Attendance Monitoring	5 (26%)	20%	40%	20%	---	20%

NOTE: "—" denotes "not applicable." Percentages across the types of services do not add to 100% because youth often received more than one type of service.

**What Do the Data in Tables 10 Tell Us about the Probation Conditions Ordered by the Court
for 241.1 Tracked Youth During the Tracking Period 1?**

- Of all 241.1 tracked youth, 100% were given at least one Probation condition by the court.
- The top three Probation conditions received by 241.1 tracked youth were: (1) attend school and maintain grades; (2) participate in counseling; and (3) do not drink alcoholic beverages.
- Adherence rates were highest for school related conditions while violation rates were highest for alcohol and drug related conditions.

Table 10: Distribution of Probation Conditions Received by Type and Youth Participation Status at the End of Tracking Period 1

	N (%)	Youth Status For Each Condition		
		Adhered	Violated	Completed
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth	23	---	---	---
Total Number of 241.1 Tracked Youth Receiving Probation Conditions	23 (100%)	---	---	---
Of Those Who Received Services, What Type of Service Did They Receive?				
9-Attend School and Maintain Grades	23 (100%)	61%	39%	---
30-Participate in Counseling	19 (83%)	58%	32%	11%
17-Not Drink Alcoholic Beverages	17 (74%)	41%	59%	---
8-Perform Community Service	14 (65%)	43%	36%	21%
19-Must Submit to Drug Testing	11 (48%)	36%	54%	---
20-Must be Randomly Tested for Drugs/Alcohol	9 (39%)	44%	56%	---
18-Not Be Around Using or Selling Drugs	8 (35%)	38%	62%	---
9a-Participate in High School Grad/GED/WIN Program	8 (35%)	75%	13%	12%
10-Participate in Afterschool Program/Tutoring	5 (22%)	80%	20%	11%
13b-Not Knowingly Participate in Gang Activity	4 (17%)	75%	25%	---

NOTE: "----" denotes "not applicable." Percentages across the types of services do not add to 100% because youth often received more than one type of service.

Findings for 241.1 Tracked Youth Outcomes

What Are the Outcomes for 241.1 Tracked Youth at the End of Period 1 (4 Months after Disposition)?

Using data collected from the first tracking period, this section reports how youth are doing on the following measures: placement stability, school performance, and new violations and/or arrests.

What Do the Data in Table 11 Tell Us about the Outcomes for 241.1 Tracked Youth at the End of Period 1 (i.e., the First 4 Months after Disposition)?

- Although a quarter of youth experienced placement changes during this period, youth experienced little change in the type of placement they lived in over time—i.e., it appears as if the placement changes occurred with the same type of placement.
- 78% of youth were enrolled at the end of Period 1. 70% were attending school regularly, but only 22% were doing well at school.
- Over 50% of these youth had a court violation or WIC 777 during Period 1.
- 17% were re-arrested for a crime during Period 1.

Table 11: Outcomes for Tracked Youth by the End of Period 1 (N=23)

	At the Beginning of Period 1	At the End of Period 1
Living Situation		
Group Home (DCFS or Probation)	39%	39%
Relative Home	30%	30%
Foster Home	17%	17%
Legal Guardian	13%	13%
	0	0
Enrolled in School at the End of Period 1*		
No	Not Available	4%
Enrolled at Beginning but not the End	Not Available	9%
Enrolled Throughout the Period	Not Available	78%
Enrolled at the End of the Period	Not Available	9%

Table 6: Outcomes for Tracked Youth at the End of period 1 (N=23)

	At the Beginning of Period 1	At the End of Period 1
School Attendance at the End of Period 1*		
Attends Regularly	Not Available	70%
Attends Sporadically	Not Available	17%
Poor Attendance	Not Available	13%
Academic Performance at the End of Period 1*		
Doing Well	Not Available	22%
Doing Average	Not Available	39%
Doing Poorly	Not Available	31%
Unknown	Not Available	9%
Violations During Period 1		
Court Violations During this Period	Not Applicable	39%
WIC 777 Violations During this Period	Not Applicable	17%
New Charges During Period 1		
New Citations During this Period	Not Applicable	17%
New Arrests During this Period	Not Applicable	17%

**NOTE: Educational data at time of referral was not available at the time this report was prepared but will be included in future reports.*

Summary of Findings

The findings from the 241.1 data collected by DCFS, Probation, and the Department of Mental Health provide unprecedented insight into “who” 241.1 youth are, the challenges they face, the services and conditions they receive, their participation/adherence to those services and conditions, and their outcomes. Although the numbers were small for this report, the findings are consistent with previous research completed in Los Angeles County and nationwide on crossover youth. Confidence in these findings and increased insight into these youths’ experiences will also grow as the number of 241.1 youth included in analysis for future reports increases over time. In sum, this is what the current findings tell us:

Characteristics

- ❖ Females are more likely to be in the crossover population (i.e., WIC 241.1/involved in both child welfare and juvenile justice systems) than in the general juvenile justice population.
- ❖ The overrepresentation of African-American youth is greater within the crossover population than in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems individually.

- ❖ These youth and their families have multiple contacts with child welfare; the youth often penetrate deeply into the child welfare system; and the youth have long lengths of stay in out-of-home placements.
- ❖ By the time they reach the 241.1 referral stage, many of these youth have had previous contact with the juvenile justice system by way of a criminal charge and/or a status offense
- ❖ They are most likely to live in a group homes or with relatives; and at least a third of their arrests are related to their living situations—specifically to their group home placements or their home situations.
- ❖ These youth are struggling at school and engaged in behavioral problems that often lead to their current arrest (i.e., the charge occurred at school).
- ❖ All of these youth have some indication of a mental health problem and/or an alcohol/drug problem. Almost two-thirds of these youth have indication of co-occurring problems.

System Responses

- ❖ Almost all of the 241.1 tracked youth received mental health services and were attending those services during Tracking Period 1. Although many youth received family treatment services referrals or services, a third were still in the “referral only” stage and another third were not attended by the end of Tracking Period 1.
- ❖ Only half of 241.1 tracked youth received alcohol/drug services, and the majority of these services were for alcohol/drug education. When given outpatient treatment, most 241.1 tracked youth were not attending services.
- ❖ Three-quarters of 241.1 tracked youth received behavioral/social interventions, and most youth were participating in those services; however, these youth were less likely to be engaged in community service compared to other behavioral interventions.
- ❖ Over three-quarters of 241.1 tracked youth received educational services related to tutoring, enrollment or credit recovery. Most youth were participating in these services.
- ❖ With regard to Probation conditions, adherence to conditions was highest among those related to education and lowest for those related to alcohol and drug use.

Outcomes

- ❖ About a quarter of 241.1 tracked youth moved placements during Tracking Period 1, but they moved within the same type of placements rather than to a different level of care (i.e., group home to group home rather than group to relative or home).
- ❖ Nearly all of 241.1 tracked youth were enrolled in school by the end of Tracking Period 1; most youth were attending school regularly; and academic performance for over half of these youth fell into the “doing average” or “doing well” categories.
NOTE: Once educational data are provided from Initial Data, it will be possible to compare their progress over time.
- ❖ Recidivism as measured by a new arrest during this period was 17%. *NOTE: Once recidivism rates are measured at 1 year after disposition, the performance of these youth can be compared to the recidivism rates of 241.1 youth not served by the MDT (collected from a previous study).*

Taken together, these findings indicate that youth are receiving services related to the challenges they face. However, it appears that substance abuse, particularly as a co-occurring problem with mental health, continues to be an issue for some youth. Such problems can, in turn affect their placement, education, and recidivism outcomes. The results presented in this report raise questions about the appropriateness of treatment and in particular, whether co-occurring problems are identified and connected to appropriate services for these youth. Additionally, it raises questions about the engagement of families in treatment. Family conflict and fragmentation is a critical issue for most of these youth, yet it is an area in which few youth receive services, and when services are identified, the execution of those services is quite low. This finding underscores the need to redefine and broaden the definition of family for youth whose immediate, biological families may not be available for services on a regular and consistent basis.

The literature on effective programming and outcomes for youth with complex needs and risk factors is clear: Effective services require (1) matching youth needs and risks to appropriate levels of service, (2) using multi-modal treatments to address different risks and needs (often related) simultaneously, and (3) meaningfully engaging youth and their families in services. While these data cannot measure all of these issues to their fullest extent, they provide insight into each of these issues and a unique opportunity to examine youths’ progress over time. Currently, the findings are based on a small number of youth, but over the next year, the number of youth in the database will grow, and it will be possible to track their trends and learn more about their successes and challenges post-disposition.